

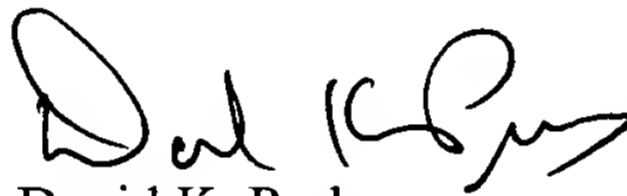
In re: Poirier et al.
Serial No.: 09/832,543
Filed: April 11, 2001
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REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the present application as reflected in the Official Action mailed June 16, 2005. Applicants also appreciate the allowance of Claims 3-9, 12-20, and 24. Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 21, and 23 which stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,018,771 to Hayden in view of United States Patent No. 6,377,990 to Slemmer *et al.* have been canceled herein. Accordingly all presently pending claims have been allowed, and the application is now in condition for allowance.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,



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